

JAMESON WAS CHAIRMAN.

SIR HERCULES ROBINSON NOT IMPLICATED IN THE TRANSVAAL PLOT.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN READS HIS TELEGRAM OF DENIAL AMID CHEERING IN THE COMMONS.

ASKED TO RESIGN.

London, May 4.—In the House of Commons today Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, alluding to the suggestion which has been made that the "Chairman" mentioned in the cipher dispatches found among Dr. Jameson's effects when he was captured by the Boers, was Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of the Cape Colony, said that he had received a telegram from Sir Hercules Robinson, in which he said: "Chairman means Jameson. I never heard of what was about to take place, and was so completely kept in the dark that I never had the slightest suspicion of what was going on or intended. The discovery on December 30 that Jameson had entered the Transvaal came upon me like a thunderbolt from a blue sky. If there is any insinuation to the contrary, I rely upon you to protect my character in my absence."

The reading of this telegram was received with cheer.

Mr. Chamberlain added: "I place implicit confidence in Sir Hercules Robinson."

Mr. Chamberlain, replying to a question by T. G. Bowles, Conservative, said that the Government had no information that Cecil Rhodes had given his pledge that the Imperial Government would not interfere to prevent Dr. Jameson's raid into the Transvaal. He had no communication with Mr. Rhodes or any one else relative to the Transvaal in regard to affording protection to the directors of the British South Africa Company.

At the request of Henry Labouchere, Mr. Chamberlain promised to lay on the table of the House the Colonial Office records of communications which passed between Sir H. B. Loch (now Lord Loch of Drilva) while he was Governor of the Cape Colony and certain Englishmen in the Transvaal in regard to affording protection to the directors of the British South Africa Company.

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MRS. JOHN STETSON DEAD.

INTERESTING COMPLICATIONS OVER HER HUSBAND'S ESTATE.

NO WILL YET PROBATED—WILL HER RELATIVES OR HIS INHERIT THE LARGE PROPERTY WHICH HE LEFT?—MRS. STETSON'S CAREER.

Boston, May 4.—Mrs. Kate Stokes Stetson, widow of John Stetson, died today. Her husband died less than three weeks ago. Mrs. Stetson had been ill only a short time, the death of her husband having been the cause of her first indisposition. At the time of her funeral she was unable to attend the services, but since then it has been generally reported that she was gradually improving.

It is a singular coincidence that both Mrs. Stetson and Charles Pattee, the custodian of Mr. Stetson's will, should be at practically the same time stricken with what in one case proved to be a fatal illness and in the other may result so. Both were taken ill on the day of the funeral of Mr. Stetson. Pneumonia, caused by exposure on the day of the funeral, is the complaint from which Mr. Pattee is now suffering. The later reports from the stricken at Winthrop are rather more encouraging.

On Thursday, at the request of the widow, M. O. Adams was appointed by the court ancillary executor, in order that the probate of the will might not be longer delayed by the illness of Mr. Pattee. The will, however, has not yet been probated.

It is reported that on the day before he died John Stetson made a will by which his entire property was left to Mrs. Stetson, but his counsel have been unable to find any trace of it, and it should be found there would, of course, be doubt as to its validity in case of a contest, owing to Mr. Stetson's condition at the time of making it. In case such a will was made and is found and allowed, the Stetson estate will go to the natural heirs of the widow. If it cannot be found and no other will turns up, Mr. Stetson's heirs will take possession of the property.

It was said at the office of Mr. Pattee a few days after Mr. Stetson was buried that Mr. Pattee had Mrs. Stetson's will in his possession and would offer it for probate as soon as he recovered his health. The appointment of Mr. Adams as ancillary executor, for the express purpose of hastening the probate of the will, is evidence that Mrs. Stetson believed that the document of documents were in Mr. Pattee's possession.

The father of Mr. Stetson, who for some time managed his property, says that the estate will probably be worth about \$500,000.

Mrs. Stetson's natural heirs would be her three sisters, Mrs. Frank J. Pilling, Miss Belle Stokes, who is now on the stage, and Mrs. John H. Doris, wife of the manager of the Gaiety Theatre in New-York.

Mrs. John Stetson, whose death follows so soon after that of her husband, was Miss Kate Stokes. She was born in Brooklyn, though she married an old Kentucky family. Her father left her home when she was an infant and went to Europe, where he met her mother. While there he went into the circus business and became a manager. On his return to this country he made a considerable fortune in the iron business, but he lost it and went back to managing a circus. His daughter Kate was about three years old at this time. She began to learn to ride while she was a child, and she became a most expert rider. She was a member of the circus for many years, and she had two sisters who were also riders. Mrs. Stetson finally met with an accident in Cuba, which put an end to her career as a rider, and she then returned to her home in New-York. She was a member of Augustus Daly's company, and then she joined one of the companies managed by Mr. Stetson. After her marriage, she returned to the stage for a short time, but she was not very successful. She then appeared with Robert Mantell in "Tangled Lives," and not long ago she went on the stage again for the first time. She was a woman of remarkable beauty, and she was a member of the "Trust of Society" in one of her husband's companies. Mrs. Stetson was a woman of remarkable beauty, and she was a member of the "Trust of Society" in one of her husband's companies.

FATALLY BURNED IN A HOTEL.

A WOMAN GUEST OF THE ST. GEORGE DIES AFTER FIGHT WITH FLAMES.

Mrs. A. L. Gladstone, twenty-six years old, who, with her husband, had been in the St. George Hotel, a family house, at Broadway and Twelfth-st., was fatally burned yesterday afternoon in her apartments on the sixth floor. She tried to save from burning a lace curtain, which had caught fire from an oil stove.

It was about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon that Mrs. Gladstone prepared to iron a piece of lace. She placed an oil stove on a table near one of the windows, which face south. She had raised the window sash, as the day was warm and the stove would make the temperature uncomfortable. Though little puffs of wind came in a while blew the lace curtains on the windows, Mrs. Gladstone did not notice that one of them at each gust drifted directly over the stove. Neither did a Miss Carpenter, a nineteen-year-old girl, who was with Mrs. Gladstone all the afternoon.

At last the curtain caught fire. Each of the women screamed, and Mrs. Gladstone hurriedly caught the burning piece of lace and tried to smother the flames in her hands. Her clothing at once took fire, and uttering a shriek she let the curtain fall and began to beat her dress so as to put out the flames. She wore a light wrapper, which burned rapidly.

Miss Carpenter shouted to Mrs. Gladstone to lie down on the floor and roll herself over. This Mrs. Gladstone tried to do, and her companion attempted to assist her. But they were so frightened that their efforts were in vain.

The girl finally opened the door leading to the corridor and shouted for assistance. Mrs. Gladstone followed her, but fell in the hallway. The girl continued downstairs to her mother's apartments. As she descended she was passed by C. E. Dobb, of Washington, Penn., who had been in the hotel and started to investigate. Mr. Dobb saw Mrs. Gladstone in the hallway, her clothing still alight. He ran to her room, seized a blanket and a bed, and returning wrapped it about the burning woman. In the mean time Mrs. J. S. Churchill, wife of the proprietor of the hotel, who lives on the fourth floor, with Mrs. Carpenter and her daughter, she threw several pailfuls of water over the unfortunate woman.

Mrs. Gladstone's entire body was burned. Dr. Morrow, a neighboring physician, was summoned. He found her in a state of unconsciousness at the Vincent's Hospital, and an ambulance was sent for.

At the hospital a corps of physicians set to work to revive the patient, but it was impossible to save her. She died at 11 p. m.

The fire did little damage to the rooms, and there was no loss of property. Mrs. Gladstone's husband is an insurance agent. Miss Carpenter's arm was slightly burned in assisting Mrs. Gladstone.

THREAT MANUFACTURERS UNITE.

MANY LIVES CRUSHED OUT.

A LARGE BUILDING FULL OF PEOPLE COLLAPSED.

A GASOLINE TANK EXPLODES WITH FRIGHTFUL RESULTS IN CINCINNATI—THE NUMBER OF VICTIMS MAY REACH FORTY—MANY NARROW ESCAPES FROM DEATH.

Cincinnati, May 4.—What may prove the worst calamity of the year in this city occurred to-night when a five-story brick structure, filled with people, completely collapsed and fell, a conglomerate mass of brick and shattered timbers, burying the unfortunate inmates in its ruins. It is impossible to say how many persons have been killed, some placing the number as high as forty, others as low as fifteen. No accurate statement can be given on this point until the wreck shall have been cleared away, which will certainly take all night.

The identified dead and injured so far as known are as follows:

DEAD.

DAVIS, B. A., traveling man, Hamilton, Ohio; has a wife living in Troy, N. C.

DRACH, Adolph, proprietor of liquor store.

INJURED.

BURNS, Peter, E., clerk of Avondale.

CROSBY, W. D., paperhanger.

HUDDLEMAN, Barbara, domestic.

HUNNICK, John, bookkeeper.

JOHNSON, Emma W., washer.

MARTIN, John, of Cincinnati Wharf Company.

SHILOH, Charles.

SPRIGGS, Joseph, colored, porter.

WARD, J. L., a racing man, of Toledo, Ohio.

WELLS, C. S., clerk.

The building was situated on the east side of Walnut-st., just south of Fifth, the lower floor being occupied by Drach's liquor-store. The upper apartments were rented out to lodgers. People for several blocks around where the disaster occurred were startled by a terrific explosion about 7:45 o'clock. A fire alarm was instantly turned in, and in a few moments half the fire department were on the scene. The work of rescue was instantly begun, forces of men taking the front, while a second corps went to the rear of the building, which opened into an alley. The first persons who appeared upon the scene entered the alley and came up to the rear of the building, where the piteous cries and moans of a woman were the only evidence of life beneath the wreck. These cries came from the cellar. It is impossible that any persons on the other floors could have escaped a horrible death. In addition to the victims who are buried beneath the building, it is estimated that fully one hundred people have been more or less injured by the concussion, falling electric wires and fragments of shattered glass, stone and timber.

NARROW ESCAPES FROM DEATH.

Twenty of those persons injured on the streets were taken into the Gibson House just across the way, and their wounds dressed. Among these was Chief of Police Joseph Pugh, of Covington, Ky., who reports a most miraculous escape. He was just in the act of entering a liquor-store, in fact, one foot was upon the door-sill, when he was startled by the flash of a burning electric wire overhead. He sprang back, when almost simultaneously the explosion occurred. He was blown almost into the middle of the street.

Three persons, whose names cannot be learned, were injured slightly in a passing streetcar, and several women in another car were prostrated from the shock.

A Newport, Ky., car, which was also near the place, had a remarkable experience. It was suddenly brought to a standstill by a fearful shock, and an immense mass came crashing through the roof. This proved upon examination to be an iron door from the cellar of the building, which by some strange freak of the explosion had been blown through the falling wreckage and up into the air. John Nebel, of this city, had just left the spot where it fell and walked back to the rear platform. No one was hurt. A Brown-st., car, was smashed almost into fragments. There were, fortunately, no passengers on it, and the conductor and motorman escaped with slight injuries.

The explosion was caused by the ignition of a gasoline tank. Adolph Drach, proprietor of a liquor store on the lower floor, had recently placed a gasoline engine in his cellar for the purpose of generating his own gasoline fuel. The best authorities agreed, setting fire to a tank of gasoline. The building was seen to shake for an instant and then came in. An instant later only an indeterminate mass of ruins remained. The walls of the buildings adjoining on either side remained intact.

WILL QUAY LEAVE PLATT?

AT HEART THE PENNSYLVANIAN IS FOR MCKINLEY.

INCIDENT OF A POLITICAL CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON LAST WINTER—THE SENATOR UNWILLING TO REPEAT HIS MINNEAPOLIS EXPERIMENT.

Harrisburg, Penn., May 4.—It is generally assumed that Senator Quay is in the same boat with Thomas C. Platt as regards Mr. McKinley's candidacy. This is a mistake. It is due to an imperfect knowledge of facts on the part of most people, and, for that matter, most politicians. The two leaders are together at present; it is possible that they may remain together for some time, but their individual attitude toward the man against whom they have been conducting a campaign with such melancholy results to themselves is widely different.

To fully understand and appreciate this statement it is necessary to go back several months—to the evening before the members of the Republican National Committee met at the Arlington Hotel in Washington to decide upon the time and place for holding the National Convention. It will be remembered that the friends of Mr. McKinley and the majority of thoughtful Republicans favored St. Louis, believing that in holding the convention there the trend of Republicanism Southward would be emphasized in a conspicuous, fitting manner. No sooner, however, was it known that Mark A. Hanna was working for St. Louis than Mr. Platt, Mr. Clarkson, Mr. Manly and the other gentlemen who constitute the Presidential Trust took up arms for Chicago. Chicago really did not want it. Between the World's Fair and a long series of National conventions of both parties her leading citizens had grown a trifle weary of hustling for such things. The delegation that came to Washington in Chicago's behalf were led by the late Mr. Campbell, member of the Republican National Committee from Illinois. At no time did they act in a manner to inspire the committee with the feeling that Chicago was earnestly seeking the convention. The usual financial backing was promised, but it failed to materialize. Nevertheless, Platt insisted upon having Chicago chosen. His man, Sutherland, who represented New-York, kept voting for it, even after St. Louis had been named. Clarkson, Manly and Fessenden voted for San Francisco to oblige De Young, but they all worked secretly for Chicago, and were all beaten. David Martin, Pennsylvania's member of the National Committee, voted for St. Louis throughout the balloting.

On the evening before the voting a conference was held at Senator Quay's house. It was attended by all the leaders mentioned. Mr. Hobart, of New-Jersey, was also there, likewise a few others. After discussing the convention matter, Mr. Quay explaining how he would like to support Pittsburg, the discussion turned on to the question of Presidential candidates. General Harrison had not then written his letter of withdrawal. He was supposed then to be the leading candidate, and the Bosses at the famous, or rather, say unfortunate, Brunswick dinner, had decided to join hands against him. His case was under discussion when Senator Quay caused considerable stir by saying:

"There is one man, in my opinion, with whom we can beat Harrison. We can also elect him easier than we can elect any other candidate that has been spoken of up to date. I mean McKinley."

This speech took his hearers by surprise. No one spoke for a moment. Whereupon, placing a favorable construction on their silence, Quay said:

"Mark Hanna, McKinley's friend, is in the city. Why not send for him at once, come to the hotel, and let him settle things?"

By this time Platt had recovered himself. One of those who was present said that he protested with intense earnestness. He was almost vehement. He declared himself to be as much opposed to McKinley as to Harrison. Both were Ohio men, he added, and one was as bad as the other. "As for Hanna," he remarked, "we can deal with him just as we please. But what can we do with McKinley?"

McKinley, of course, with an eye to Reed's candidacy, endorsed Platt's words. So did Clarkson and Fessenden. Hobart sat in silence. For St. Louis, he was, but he was duly informed of what Quay had said and done, and also of Platt's share in the discussion of the evening. He has a good memory; he will demonstrate that fact every spring or fall.

Thomas C. Platt is in a slight plight. New-York people hardly realize how desperate his position has become.

STREETCAR STRIKE IN MILWAUKEE.

OVER 1200 MEN GO OUT—THE COMPANY DEMANDS TO YIELD TO DEMANDS.

Milwaukee, Wis., May 4.—A strike of street car employees for an advance in wages and recognition of the union began this morning, tying up every line in the city. Over 1200 men are out, including conductors, motormen, electrical workers and barn men. There are not more than nine cars running on all the lines in the city. The strikers are assembled around the barns and power-houses and hoot the men at work. The American Federation of Labor has declared in favor of the strike, and the affair may result in forcing a general tie-up of all interests in which union labor is employed.

The company issued a notice to the men that those not ready to work before noon to-morrow could consider themselves discharged. "We operate," said General Manager Wyman, "to provide our cars with the best of men from all parts of the country, and if the old men refuse to return to work by noon to-morrow we will engage new men."

Chief of Police Jansen is ready to put on a large force of extras and the Sheriff is also being deputized to assist. The union men say they must win this fight or quit their organization.

ORDERED HOME FOR COURT-MARTIAL.

San Francisco, May 4.—The United States cruiser Concord, detached from the Asiatic Squadron, arrived last night after an uneventful voyage of ten days from Honolulu.

On board the Concord was Passed Assistant Paymaster E. B. Webster, of the gunboat Yorktown. The two exchanged places with Paymaster Kerr, of the Concord, under instructions of Acting Secretary of the Navy McAdoo. Webster is charged with having, through misrepresentation, obtained \$2,500 in cash from the late Mrs. W. H. Tobin, of this city, and was ordered to be court-martialed. The money was given Webster by Mrs. Tobin as a cash bond to protect the Paymaster from any errors or indiscretions on the part of her son. Tobin was discharged at Yokohama at his own request, but the executives of Mrs. Tobin have been unable to secure a return of the alleged bond. The matter was reported by the Navy Department, and Webster was ordered home on the first vessel for court-martial.

Washington, May 4.—The Department has ordered the officials who know nothing of the reported recall of Passed Assistant Paymaster E. B. Webster, who reached San Francisco from China last night, for the alleged purpose of answering a charge that he has not satisfactorily accounted for \$2,500 given him as surety by a Mrs. Tobin. Some time ago Mr. Webster was tried by a court-martial on allegations affecting his efficiency as an officer, and was sentenced to confinement within the limits of his ship, the gunboat Yorktown, for three months. Rear Admiral McNair, commanding the Asiatic Squadron, was ordered to return to the United States. Mr. Webster was tried by a court-martial on allegations affecting his efficiency as an officer, and was sentenced to confinement within the limits of his ship, the gunboat Yorktown, for three months. Rear Admiral McNair, commanding the Asiatic Squadron, was ordered to return to the United States.

A BREAK FROM MORTON.

COLONEL BRADLEY ANNOUNCES HE IS FOR MCKINLEY ON THE FIRST BALLOT.

THE ORANGE COUNTY DELEGATE SAYS HE MUST YIELD TO POPULAR SENTIMENT IN HIS CONGRESS DISTRICT—MR. PLATT'S DEJECTION AND ODELL'S SIGNIFICANT REMARKS.

The Morton delegation from this State to St. Louis has already begun to disintegrate. Mr. Platt got the news that Colonel Thomas W. Bradley, of Orange County, who is one of the delegates to the Republican National Convention to represent the XVIIIth Congress District, has declared that he will vote for McKinley's nomination on the first ballot. Colonel Bradley was not instructed by his Congress Convention, but he was registered as a Morton man. Congressman Benjamin B. Odell, Jr., of Newburg, who recently went to Albany and declared against the Greater New-York bill, and then turned around and drove all the Assemblymen from his district to the support of the bill, so as to show that he was as loyal as ever to Platt, is Colonel Bradley's associate delegate to the National Convention. Senator Lexow was Mr. Platt's choice for delegate instead of Mr. Bradley, but the District Convention chose the latter.

The news of Colonel Bradley's departure from the singing ship came to Mr. Platt through Wilbur F. Wakeman, general secretary of the American Protective Tariff League, who is a strong McKinley man.

MR. WAKEMAN SAW COLONEL BRADLEY ON SUNDAY and gave out the following statement last evening as coming from the Orange County delegate:

No additional honor can now come to Levi F. Morton through a continuance of his Presidential candidacy. The duty of the hour is a prompt and hearty recognition of the great majority sentiment within our party that would nominate McKinley by acclamation. With all the respect and regard for Governor Morton, and with all the confidence in a reasonable chance of his nomination existing, I shall now heed the general desire of the business men in this State and vote for Major McKinley on the first ballot.

Mr. Wakeman says that when he asked Colonel Bradley if he had any objection to the fact of his purpose to vote for McKinley being made public, the Colonel replied: "Certainly not—and the sooner it is known, the more generally known, the better it will suit me. I repeat, I am for McKinley on the first ballot. He is the choice of the great majority of the Republicans of the country."

In speaking of the kind of man Colonel Bradley is, Mr. Wakeman said: "He was a gallant officer with General Slocum's superb Third Army Corps, and Sunday being the thirty-third anniversary of the battle of Chancellorsville, he could talk little except war memories, but did manage to say something about the Republican National Convention to be held at St. Louis."

Mr. Bradley is a large manufacturer of cutlery and a man of wealth, independence and influence.

MR. WAKEMAN SAID THAT COLONEL BRADLEY'S announcement in favor of McKinley was not the last that might be expected from New-York delegates classed for Morton. "There will be plenty more of them," he added, "and they will come trooping along in numbers sufficient to make Mr. Platt's head swim. By the time the delegation is ready to start for St. Louis I would not be surprised if more than half of them will have declared for McKinley."

It was said last evening that Mr. Morton's strength in the State delegation of seventy-two was already reduced to fifty-eight. None of the Brooklyn delegates are instructed. W. B. Atterbury, of the Iliad Congress District, has already declared for McKinley. Messrs. Bliss and Cruger, of the XIIIth; Brookfield and McCook, of the XIIIth; Collis and Wright, of the XVth, and Robertson and Pecue, of the XVIIth, are looked upon as McKinley men, and ready to support him as soon as it is evident that the Erie County delegates, Messrs. Matthews and Dudley, of the XXXIIIth District, are avowed McKinley men, and so instructed.

MR. PLATT'S FEELINGS ABOUT IT.

After Mr. Platt had time last evening thoroughly to digest the information about Colonel Bradley, he was asked what he had to say about it. Mr. Platt replied:

"I cannot credit the report, and yet I must say that I shall not be greatly surprised if it turns out to be true. When Mr. Odell spoke to me about electing Bradley to the National Convention I called his attention to the fact that four years ago Bradley performed an act of desertion similar to what he is reported as doing now. He deserted James G. Blaine, whom he was morally bound to support in the Minneapolis Convention, and voted for Harrison. But Odell was sure that he wouldn't do it again, and said to me: 'I will be responsible for Bradley. You might as well doubt me as doubt him.' I withdrew my objections, and Mr. Bradley was chosen. If he has announced his purpose to vote for McKinley on the first ballot, as is reported, he is a treacherous man. That is all I care to say about him."

"What do you think of Mr. Wakeman's statement that many more delegates credited to Morton will soon follow Mr. Bradley's example?"

"I will give Wakeman \$1,000 for every additional delegate he gets for McKinley," replied Mr. Platt grimly.

Mr. Platt exhibited this wild wall of woe. In the shape of a telegram he received last evening from Congressman Odell, but it did not seem to afford the Trogan much consolation:

Washington, May 4, 1896.

Hon. T. C. Platt, Fifth Avenue Hotel, New-York.

Dispatch says Bradley is for McKinley. If so, I cannot condemn too strongly such action, and have said in interview, I am both surprised and gratified, but remain with you and the organization to the end, and you are authorized to quote me. I have wired Bradley.

B. ODELL, JR.

A TALK WITH SENATOR HOAR.

Senator George F. Hoar, of Massachusetts, was at the Fifth Avenue Hotel last evening. He came from Washington to New-York on his way to Europe for his summer vacation, and will sail for Bremen on the Sprea, of the North German Lloyd Line, to-day.

Senator Hoar was asked for his opinion as to the result of the Presidential contest.

"I don't know any more about that," he replied, "than you people do here in New-York. You, perhaps, have a better opportunity of judging than I have as to how it will end."

"I think, however, that if Governor Morton should be nominated nobody would be more surprised than the Governor himself," and the Senator indulged in a quiet chuckle.

Mr. Hoar was asked about the reported tendency of the Massachusetts delegation, generally supposed to be for Reed, toward McKinley.

"I do not see," the Senator said, "why any man who is now for Reed should not vote for McKinley if he cannot get Reed. I will tell you this: No man can say to Massachusetts delegates that they must support some other man, if Reed becomes impossible, in order to defeat McKinley."

"There is a great difference in the combination of those attempting to defeat McKinley and the men who united to oppose General Grant when he sought the Presidency for the third term. The union of that year, 1880, was for the purpose of electing Grant on the third term question, as well as the influences that then surrounded Grant. This should be borne in mind."

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